N.C. ETHICS



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"A prospective covered person required to file a statement under this Chapter shall not be appointed, employed, or receive a certificate of election, prior to submission by the Commission of the Commission's evaluation of the statement in accordance with this Article." Section 138A-22(a).

All persons holding covered positions prior to January 1, 2007, must file a Statement of Economic Interest ("SEI") by **March 15, 2007**. New SEI forms were mailed to all such persons last month. If you have not received your new 2007 SEI, please contact Commission staff immediately.

Please remember to answer every SEI question, even if the answer is "none." We are receiving many incomplete Statements which must be sent back to the filer, thus delaying the final review and evaluation process. In particular, please respond to question number 19.

In addition, most prospective covered persons (ones NOT holding a covered position on January 1, 2007) cannot be appointed, employed, or receive a certificate of election prior to the submission by the Commission of the Commissioner's evaluation of the person's SEI. In other words, most new appointees or employees *after* January 1, 2007, must not only *file* their SEIs with the Commission, but also have them *evaluated* prior to taking their positions. There is an exception for appointees and persons hired by constitutional officers of the State during the officer's initial term of office and voting members of the Board of Governors, the State Board of Community Colleges, State community college and university boards of trustees, and covered staff members of each system who may assume their duties prior to an evaluation by the Commission.

If you are an appointing authority considering the appointment or hiring of a covered person under the new ethics act, or you are being considered for appointment or employment after January 1, 2007, please contact Commission staff immediately. Appointing authorities should plan to give Commission staff at least one full week to complete the official review and evaluation of any prospective covered person. Failure to do so may result in a delay of the appointment or hiring.

Completeness Required

Under the new ethics law, everyone must file a **full** Statement of Economic Interest ("Long Form"). When you fill out your Long Form, please address each part of each question. Incomplete Statements will be returned, which will delay your evaluation and could result in a late filing.

So, *PLEASE* make sure you have answered each and every question – even if the answer is "none."

Do not leave questions blank.